

Union (ACLU) Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty Award; the Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award, and the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award. She is also the recipient of the Consumers' Union Trumpeter's Award. In 1998, she was one of three Ms. Magazine's, "Women of the Year," and the Ladies Home Journal's, "100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century." In addition, she has received three honorary doctorate degrees for her extraordinary career.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, we ask you to join us in saluting Dolores Huerta for her impressive efforts and unyielding commitment to empowering women and improving the lives of farm workers.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of this past April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month where Americans across the country worked to raise awareness of child abuse prevention and services available to victims.

Child abuse is a tragic, destructive, and a largely silent epidemic that affects millions of Americans—both children and adults.

And it is never more tragic than when it is sexual in nature. Unfortunately one in six children in our country experience this in their lifetime.

In fact, in my district, there was a young woman who was abused by a teacher she knew and respected over a decade ago. I am proud to say that she has not only recovered and is leading a happy life, but is also one of the officers in a group headquartered in Santa Ana called The Innocence Mission, which is working to help prevent abuse.

The Innocence Mission is putting forward a message of empowerment, one that tells parents they CAN prevent child sexual abuse. A message that speaks directly to children and adult survivors and says to them—they are not alone. Victims have the support of their communities, and have nothing to be ashamed of.

Far too often we read stories of child abuse in the headlines. It is heartbreaking and preventable, and that is why we must work to raise awareness not only just in April but year round.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HARVEY KAPLAN OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Harvey Kaplan who proudly states that he has spent his entire career as a pediatrician. I have been friends with Dr. Kaplan for three decades and have witnessed his passion for those entering the world.

Dr. Kaplan was appointed to the San Mateo Medical Center in 1969. He also is a Clinical

Professor of Pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine and a member of the Community Clinical Faculty of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

In the 1970s he took a special interest in treating children who might be victims of abuse. He says he thought of himself as a pioneer in those days as he helped the center develop an interdisciplinary approach to treatment. He eventually assisted in the establishment of the Children's SAFE Center which was on the cutting edge of detecting and treating child sex abuse. He is now a member of the San Mateo County Pediatric Death Review Team.

Although Dr. Kaplan admits to having a few bouts with the lure of private practice, he says those moments passed, replaced by the satisfaction of providing pediatric care to families that normally wouldn't have access to an array of services. Clearly, this Brooklyn native has been California's gain.

Madam Speaker, the San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor the contributions of Dr. Kaplan at a special ceremony on April 30. He has truly been a hero of healthcare for our county and State.

HONORING POLISH NATIONAL DAY

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, on May 3, the people of Poland celebrated the 219-year anniversary of the passage of the Constitution of May 3, 1791. This Constitution is regarded around the world as Europe's first and the world's second modern codified national constitution, following only the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1788. This is a great day not only for the Polish people but also for freedom loving people around the world.

The United States and Poland share similar values and the two Constitutions reflect that shared commitment to liberty for all people. In fact, according to one Polish historian, the May 3 Constitution was "founded principally on those of England and the United States of America . . . and adapted as much as possible to the local and particular circumstances of the country." In addition, historians have pointed out a number of similarities between the two Constitutions, including an advocacy of a separation and balance of powers and a bicameral legislature. Article V of the May 3 Constitution states that, "the integrity of the states, civil liberty, and social order remain always in equilibrium." The United States and Poland share an unbreakable commitment to freedom and liberty. I congratulate the people of Poland on this momentous day.

In honor of this special day, I would like to put into the RECORD a speech given by the President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, in honor of Polish National Day.

Dear Ambassador, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be here in this wonderful old building, the Renwick Gallery, in the heart of this nation's capital.

Over the past few days, in my capacity as President of the European Parliament, I have been holding discussions here in Washington on issues relating to the European

Union. I should therefore like to thank you, Mr. Ambassador, for holding this reception so that we might meet and celebrate together one of the key events in Polish history.

A few short steps away lies a park containing monuments to great heroes of freedom and democracy. For the last century and more, it has housed a monument to Tadeusz Kościuszko, a hero of two nations—Poland and the United States—and a staunch defender of the Polish Constitution of 3 May 1791—Europe's first, and the world's second, such document.

This year's Polish Constitution Day celebrations are overshadowed by the tragic events of 10 April, which have shown how important a modern constitution is to Poland, as indeed to any democratic country. During this difficult period, the 1997 Constitution has ensured continuity of government and a stable Presidency in our country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having joined the European Union, Poland now enjoys a two-fold partnership with the United States: both as a sovereign state and as an important member of a unique community of 27 countries and close to half a billion people.

The European Parliament, with its more than 700 directly elected Members, is the most democratic of the EU institutions. I believe that the time has now come for closer relations to be forged between our Parliament and the U.S. Congress. Day-to-day responsibility for doing so will lie with our newly opened office in Washington, which Piotr Nowina-Konopka was recently appointed to head up.

In today's world, the partnership between Europe and the United States is an alliance whose importance cannot be overstated. And it is because we are democracies that that alliance should have a parliamentary dimension. The commemoration of 3 May is an appropriate occasion to draw attention to this fact, because constitutions are the supreme expression of parliamentary law-making in the majority of the world's democracies.

May this anniversary inspire us, as politicians, to be ever more effective in our efforts to ensure the good of our free nations.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JAMES MEIER OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. James Meier, a dedicated physician in my district who has devoted his career to providing quality care to a generation of the poor and less fortunate in San Mateo County. I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Meier for 30 years and have witnessed his passion and dedication to his work.

Dr. Meier took a three-month temporary assignment at the San Mateo Medical Center and stretched it to more than 40 years and counting.

He has worked through the lean years when the county board of supervisors nearly voted to close the hospital. Those votes spurred an effort to raise community awareness of the Center's services. Dr. Meier played a lead role in forming the San Mateo Medical Center Foundation which has helped garner the needed public support to keep the hospital functioning as a provider of high quality medical care.